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CALIFORNIA CENTENNIAL



NINA WARREN

U. S. Department of Agriculture

GIANT

Ballay

DAHLIAS

BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

4309 El Camino Real

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CATALOGUE

BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

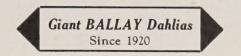
4309 El Camino Real PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

PLEASE NOTE—When ordering please write NAME and ADDRESS plainly, also state date delivery is desired. It is better not to have roots delivered until you are ready to use them. As the stock of some varieties is limited and the demand this year is heavy, it is well to name some second choices. We do not substitute without permission. All shipments prior to April 1st, except on the Pacific Coast, are sent by Express Collect to insure against freezing. We do not sell green plants. Prices listed are for strong field-grown root divisions. Where air-mail delivery is requested, unless remittance includes the extra charge for this service, request will not be complied with.

TERMS—CASH WITH ORDER or before date of shipment. On retail orders for California delivery 3% Sales Tax should be added to the amount to comply with the Sales Tax Law. We guarantee that all roots sent are true to name and in good growing condition, but beyond this assume no responsibility. All orders are accepted with this provision.

EXPLANATION OF TYPES -

- Informal Decorative (I.D.). Double flowers, full to the center, usually long irregular petals.
- Formal Decorative (F. D.). Double flowers, full to the center, usually with broad flat petals.
- Cactus (C.). Double flowers, full to the center, with long, narrow, pointed petals, incurved, recurved or straight, and rolled at least half their length.
- Semi-Cactus (S. C.). Double flowers, full to the center, with coarse, twisted petals, usually somewhat incurved, and rolled ordinarily less than half their length.



OUR NEW INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1950

(Illustrated on front cover)

CALIFORNIA CENTENNIAL — Informal decorative. Buff yellow with the color somewhat accentuated at the center. An oval shaped bloom averaging in size about 12 x 7. It is a seedling of California Pageant, the habits of which it resembles in many respects. The plant growth is similar with the same strong, straight stems holding the flower in good position, and the color and form of the bloom itself characterizes it as a new variety in this desirable shade that will be hard to surpass. Unquestionably it is the outstanding variety from the West this year. It was the American Home Achievement Medal Winner at the San Francisco Show, grown and exhibited by Mr. J. L. Gaylord. It is also on Mr. Lynn B. Dudley's 1949 Dahlia Roll of Honor in Flower Grower. Strong divisions, \$15.00 Net.



NINA WARREN — Semi-cactus. Bright rosy purple. At last a nice new purple semi-cactus of large size. Many who have seen it consider it a real find. The rather tall plant is a mass of blooms all season. Few dahlias have greater charm whether for garden purposes, exhibition or cutting, and it is in a color class much needed. This is a variety that will thrive in warm weather and is not improved by shading or covering. Named for the wife of the Governor of California. Incidentally, Mrs. Warren stated on seeing it that this is her favorite color.





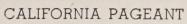
FORTY-NINER

KING OF THE WHITES

OTHER DAHLIAS OF OUR OWN INTRODUCTION

ALCAZAR — S.C. Deep fuchsia red or bright reddish purple. It belongs in the purple class according to the color chart, and the formation of the flower is frequently very close to the true cactus type. A nice large dahlia outstanding as to beauty and distinctiveness that blooms early and freely on the best of stems \$2.50 AZURA — I.D. Rosy lilac with a bluish-violet sheen. A very large deep flower which has won several times as largest flower in the show with blooms measuring 12 to 14 inches. Plant is tall and strong and the blooms have a distinctive and interesting formation......\$1.50 BALLAY ROUGE - I.C. Bright clear red. Fine petalled true type cactus in a very popular color. Size is large for a cactus, excellent form, perfect stems, a free and early bloomer. It has been outstanding in many parts of the BEAU BRILLIANT — I.D. Bright carmine. A truly brilliant color that is impressive both in the garden and show room. It is a large full flower, a profuse bloomer, and the plant growth is all that can be desired. Seems to thrive







FRIEDA GAYLORD

..\$2.00

CALIFORNIA IDOL — I.D. Lemon yellow. Famous the world over. A very large flower with ideal habits that is seldom surpassed either for garden performance or for exhibition. One of the truly great dahlias
CALIFORNIA PAGEANT — I.D. Bright gold with shadings of reddish bronze. Very large flower of very gay coloring. Strong, straight stems hold the well-formed blooms facing perfectly. Highest scoring dahlia at Storrs in 1946. Three blooms on one plant at the same time measured 13 x 8 inches
CALIFORNIA PEACH—S. C. Bright coral or peach. Definitely attractive because of size and color. A little difficult to grow in some localities\$1.50
CALIFORNIA ROSE — I. D. Clear bright rose. Exquisite coloring, large, tall growing. Has been described as a good keeper when cut
CATALINA — S. C. Bright rose red of the American Beauty shade. Fairly large flower most brilliantly colored that blooms early and most freely over a long period. Well branched plant of medium height. Easy to grow. New 1948\$5.00
CONFUCIUS — S. C. Chinese red (bright coral red). This very striking dahlia is a real giant with many winnings to its credit. Few dahlias have achieved greater popularity and it doubtless ranks with the very best
CORONADO — I. D. Bright rose magenta. An interesting and sturdy variety that should be more widely known. Flower is large and of very attractive coloring with a good stem. Plant of medium height
DOROTHY LAMOUR — Str. Cac. True orange. A dahlia of great charm because of its rare color and useful qualities. This is a distinctive variety that is much

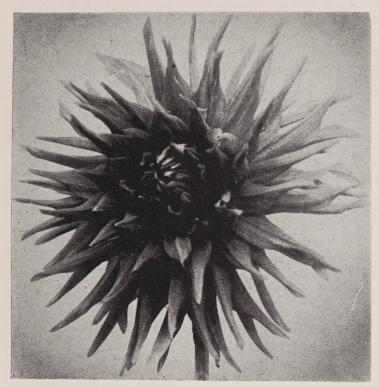
in demand





GOVERNOR WARREN

HIGHLANDER





CATALINA

NIGHTINGALE

CĂTĂLINĂ	NIGHTINGALE
GERTRUDE LAWRENCE — I. D. Light cerito size and color. Early to bloom. Plant of r	ise red. Outstanding variety both as medium height
GOVERNOR WARREN — I. D. Golden sa A full, deep, broad petalled bloom well p new giant in the autumn color class pos- size. A 1948 introduction.	placed on a long rugged stem. This sesses real beauty as well as great
GRANDEE — I D. Light red shaded orang great size. Plant growth rather sparse	
GRAND MARSHAL — S. C. Reddish-viole common color. Particularly good in the la	
HIGHLANDER — I. D. Scarlet-pink with a l new shade of pink sometimes called "wat on long, strong stems. A continuous perfo	termelon." Artistically formed bloom
JOSEPH B. LANKTREE — I. D. Bright red winner in California. Massive blooms 12 to of the season. Outstanding in its class	o 14 inches. Continues until the end
KING COLE —I. D. Deep maroon red. F better. Flowers are large, well formed a bloomer	nd with good stems. Not a prolific
KING OF THE WHITES — I. D. Clear glister is exactly what the name implies. Very lesturdy plant. Is not soiled by heat or moist ports from many places the past season. N	arge and full with fine stems and a ture. We have received excellent re-
LELAND STANFORD — I. D. Brilliant card fade and will withstand difficult conditions.	
MAGNA CHARTA — I. D. Deep old rose. grow large on a long cane-like stem. Clear any faults or failings.	n sturdy bush growth. Has not shown

substance and most pleasing appearance. All good qualities and highly recommended \$1.50
MAYFAIR — I.D. True bright pink with a white center. Unusual form with laciniated petals and most artistic. Fairly large size with lots of color appeal Good habits. New 1949
MISS GLORY — S. C. Apricot-yellow. A refined flower of large size and excellent form. Well known and popular. One of the best in its class
MONTEZUMA — S. C. Reddish copper or terra cotta. A giant semi-cactus or the type of Confucius. The big, bold flower has depth as well as diameter and the color is attractive and unusual. \$2.50
NIGHTINGALE — F. D. Deep magenta rose shading somewhat lighter at the tips of the petals. The color is generally referred to as fuchsia. A truly spectacular flower and strictly of the formal type. Better proportioned stems and more rugged plant growth would be hard to find. Large size
PACIFICA—S. C. Saffron yellow, light reverse. A beautiful and distinctive yellow dahlia. Petals are broad and numerous and flower will attain spectacular size. An all-purpose variety
PACIFIC SPLENDOR — I. D. Delicate pink shading to white center. Artistic bloom of large size. A delightful color when properly grown. Habits of growth are good
PALO ALTO — I. D. Salmon shading to gold. One of the best of the olde varieties. A dahlia of fine color that is easy to grow. Rather tall plant producing many good flowers on long stems
REGALIA — I. C. Bright cerise. An unusual cactus with perfect stems. This dahlia has proven to be a valuable addition to its class on account of its many fine qualities. A striking color and a lavish bloomer throughout the sea son \$2.06
SAN FRANCISCO— I. D. Shrimp pink. A giant of great beauty. Rugged grow er with extra long stems
SATAN — S. C. Flaming red, gold center. A great dahlia that is known wherever dahlias are grown. Greatest prize winner of its day
SAVINA — I. C. Bright salmon shading to golden yellow. A husky growing plant producing nice large cactus blooms on good stems. Color is very pleasing and strikes the popular fancy. Well worthwhile if you are fond of the cactus type. New
SIR FRANCIS DRAKE—I. D. Golden bronze shading deeper at the center Very large flower with exceptional depth. One of the very best in the autumn shades which are always popular. We have had many fine reports on the performance of this dahlia
YANKEE DOODLE—I. D. Fuchsia purple with crimson shadings. Giant size rare coloring, good habits. An ideal exhibition dahlia. Not particularly recommended for climates where the summers are extremely hot and dry\$2.50

GOOD VARIETIES OF OTHER GROWERS

(Name in parenthesis is that of the introducer. In the case of foreign dahligs the name of the country is given.)

ADOLPH MAYER — I. D. (Holland.) Maroon. Very dark medium sized flower. Strong free branching plant and a prolific bloomer
A. C. GOODACRE — F. D. (Dixie.) Bright yellow tipped white. A real bi-color. Vigorous and productive
ALICE MAY — I. D. (Australia.) Pure white. Large and deep with good stems and excellent substance. Dependable in the garden and generally useful\$1.00
ALL AMERICAN — S. C. (Salem.) Mulberry rose. A true semi-cactus of good form, unusual color and large size. Very desirable for all purposes\$1.50
AMELIA EARHART — S. C. (Cordes.) Apricot buff with salmon shadings. One of the best of the older varieties because of the richly colored blooms of large size held facing on a good stem
AXFORD TRIUMPH — I. D. (Australia.) Bronze and tan. A new variety of large size that is a robust grower with excellent habits
BETTY STAKER —I. D. (Australia.) Dull gold with rose shadings. A massive flower and a beautiful color. Very impressive in the garden
BILL'S GOLD — I. D. (Australia.) Bright old gold. One of the best of its color and an all-around fine dahlia. Very large, good grower, good stems\$2.00
BLACK MONARCH —I. D. (Rocky River.) Very dark red. Strong grower and free bloomer. Large and interesting because of its color. Improved by shading \$3.50
BLUE GALILEE —S. C. (Rees.) Violet rose with the violet shade quite pronounced. True semi-cactus of good size. The rather low growing plant produces many blooms throughout the season on good stems. New and impressive \$7.50
BLUE RIVER — I. D. (Salem.) Bluish-lavender. As near to blue as we have in dahlias. Always attracts attention. Good size
CAMEO — F. D. (Fisher-Masson.) Soft coral or salmon pink. Color is most pleasing. Large flowers on long stems. Very satisfactory
CARL G. DAHL — I. D. (Scott.) Old rose and gold. A consistent winner as largest bloom. Petals are broad and well placed and have good substance\$1.50
CLARA CARDER — I. D. (Australia.) Cyclamen pink. A new and pleasing color, fine form. Has capacity for great size. Prefers cool weather
CHAS. L. MASTICK —F. D. (Mastick.) Glistening orange shading darker toward the center. A perfect formal decorative especially good for cutting. One of the best in its class
CHEROKEE BRAVE — I. D. (Dahliadel.) Deep red. Good grower, large size, stands unusual weather well







MONTEZUMA

CONQUEROR — S. C. (Holland.) Clear sulphur yellow. Well-formed clean-cut flower of fairly large size and good stems. A useful and beautiful variety. New 1946. \$2.50
COMMANDO — F. D. (Golden Rule.) Phlox purple. Vividly colored bloom, large and attractive. A formal in a new color
CORNELL — I. D. (Parella.) Deep red, tipped white. A fair sized bi-color with good markings. Good grower but not a prolific bloomer\$2.00
CROYDEN ELITE — I. D. (Australia.) Bright yellow with a slight reddish suffusion especially at center of the flower. A fine, large dahlia of exquisite form. Strong growing plant that produces many blooms on first-class stems\$2.50
DAHLIAMUM — I. D. (Chemar.) Bronze gold. Very large flower, carried on top of a strong stem, that looks like a shaggy chrysanthemum
DARCY SAINSBURY — F. D. (Australia.) White. Large, full flower that is considered by many the best white formal to date. A white that will stand the weather. Good grower
DIXIE'S WINE DOT — I. D. (Dixie.) White ground striped and splashed wine red. Something new and good. A most unusual variegated dahlia of very large size and sturdy growth
EVENTIDE — I. D. (Bissell.) True purple. Fairly large flowers of unusual form, each petal being notched and slightly twirled. Nice plant with dark foliage. \$2.00
EL RUBIO — I. D. (Redfern.) Wine red. Very large bold flower. Plant growth extremely rugged. A late bloomer and one of the most attractive in the garden in the late fall
ESSIE SMITH — I. D. (Smith.) Lavender pink. Large deep flower. Strong grower with good habits





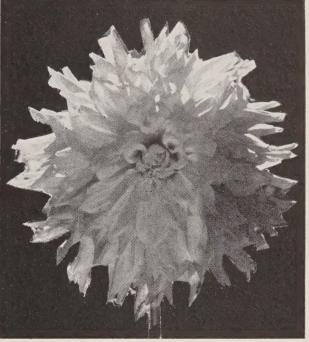
SAVINA

ALCAZAR

FIVE-STAR GENERAL — F. D. (Ramage-Ruschmohr.) Blend of soft pink and creamy yellow. An exceptional dahlia of real merit. Large, well formed and a good grower. A 1946 introduction that impressed all visitors. Highly recommended
GALAXY — I. C. (England.) Yellow striped and splashed with red. A very interesting and satisfactory cactus. Flowers are full and well formed. Plant is tall and sturdy
GAY KNIGHT — I. D. (Australia.) Bright red suffused gold. This brightly colored bloom is extra large and held straight up on a perfect stem. One of the largest and best from Australia. \$2.50
GLAMOUR — I. D. (Salem.) Light purple with shadings of rose. Grows large without pampering and is a consistent winner in the shows. Color, form and habits are all good. \$2.00
GOLDEN STANDARD — I. C. (Downs.) Amber buff. Large exhibition cactus. Good grower and excellent keeper
GOULBURN — I. C. (Australia.) Yellow shading to apricot. A true cactus of large size. Outstanding in its class with great possibilities in the show-room. \$2.50
GREATER GLORY — S. C. (Salem.) Rose pink shading to cream. Large well-formed flower on a tall plant. A valuable addition to the semi-cactus class. \$1.00
GUNYAH GLORY — S. C. (Australia.) Royal purple. We have nothing else exactly like it in color. Big, tall growing semi-cactus that is much admired by visitors. Outstanding. \$5.00
HULIN'S MELODY — S. C. (Hulin.) Pale gold with mauve shadings. Fine bloom of good size in an odd color combination. Grows strong and blooms abundantly. Very desirable
HUNT'S VELVET WONDER — I. D. (Hunt-Burnett.) Cerise purple. This is a huge flower with broad petals and great depth. Plant is rugged and of medium height with rather short stems. \$1.00

INDIAN GIANT — I. D. (Emmons.) Reddish apricot. Very large exhibition variety. Plants are low and bushy and continue to produce fine blooms over a long period. Color is different and much admired
IVORY PRINCESS — S. C. (Ruschmohr.) Ivory white. Large, well-formed flower of an unusual shade. Strong grower with good stems
JAMES ROSS—I. D. (Dorff.) Reddish purple. Fair sized flower of striking appearance. Starts rather late but produces many fine fall blooms. Medium height
JANE LAUSCHE — S. C. (Rocky River.) Lavender tipped white. Decidedly a new combination of color and an all-around good dahlia. It was a big prize winner in its introductory year. A novelty of real merit\$2.50
KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD — I. D. (Rocky River.) Bright gold with a reddish suffusion. First blooms are very large. Stems are long and strong. An early bloomer. \$2.50
LILAC GIANT — S. C. (Salem.) Pinkish lilac. A dahlia of tremendous size. Low growing plant but stems are sufficiently long. There are not many semi-cactus varieties in this shade and this is a good one
LOUISE—S. C. (Australia.) Creamy white. Very satisfactory dahlia that resembles Mother's Day to some extent but has a better stem. Large flower on an excellent growing plant
LYNNE FONTANNE — S. C. (Lee-Parrella.) Light red. Very large and full. Improves as the season advances. Winner of many prizes as largest bloom\$2.00
MAFFIE — S. C. (Exnar-Johnson.) Carmine red. Truly spectacular. First blooms are extremely large and have frequently won as largest in the show. Tall, open grower. \$2.00
MARGRACE — I. D. (Bissell.) Bright red lightly tipped gold. The large long-stemmed blooms are freely produced through the whole season\$1.00
MARY RETZER — I. D. (Retzer.) Clear lavender. A clean crisp flower of fairly large size. Fine growing habits. Good
MONARCH OF THE EAST — I. D. (Almy.) Bright golden apricot. Giant flowers borne profusely on a rampant growing bush. Colorful
MOTHER'S DAY — I. D. (Australia.) Creamy white. Beautifully shaped blooms of great size. Stem stalks are very tall and sometimes need support\$2.00





JOSEPH B. LANKTREE

FIRST LADY

MRS. HESTER A. PAPE — I. D. (Pape-Rocky River.) Reddish purple. Popular 1946 introduction of rich coloring. Large, sturdy and attractive. A big winner in the shows. \$5.00
MRS. THOMAS EDISON — I. D. (Chautauqua.) Ruby red, with silver reverse.
Outstanding color effect. Flower can be grown to good size and is always a
bright spot in the garden
MURPHY'S MASTERPIECE — I. D. (Success.) Deep red. This dahlia is naturally
large and can be grown to great proportions. Has been a contender in the
largest class for many years. Strong grower with good stems
NANCY C. SCHARHAG — I. D. (Sunset.) Mallow pink striped and splashed
wine purple. A sport of Dixie's Wine Dot which it very much resembles in
everything but color. Very reliable. New 1947
NIRWANA — I. C. (Holland.) Yellow and salmon. Beautiful new cactus. Flow-
ers profusely and has strong straight stems
OAKLEIGH CHAMPION — C. (Oakleigh.) Orange and pink with yellow shad-
ings at base of petals. Large cactus of excellent form on strong long stems. A
real pleasure to grow. Outstanding. New
OGDEN REID — I. D. (Parrella.) Old rose with slight golden suffusion. Large
exhibition bloom on long slender stem Blooms profusely \$2.50

PACIFIC ROSE — I. D. (Thompson.) Deep rose pink. Fine large variety that is popular in California and a winner at the shows. Medium height with all good growing habits. Recommended
PAMELA JOYCE — I. D. (Australia.) Clear yellow. Large, broad-petalled bloom on a strong but rather short stem. Blooms early and freely
PEARL HARBOR — I. D. (Dixie.) Lavender striped and splashed deep red. A very pretty variegated dahlia of good size. Habits satisfactory
PHYLLIS KNIGHT — I. D. (Australia.) Salmon rose. Very large size. Fine color and all good qualities except that an occasional bloom may come with a coarse center. Popular
PINK AMELIA — S. C. (Edison.) Rose pink. A remarkable sport of Amelia Earhart with all the good points of the parent variety. Good texture and erect stem\$1.50
PINK GIANT — I. D. (Holland.) True pink. This is hardly a giant according to the American idea but it is large enough for all general purposes. The color is impressive and it has achieved popularity in this country
POET'S DREAM — I. D. (Salem.) Shell pink or possibly soft apple blossom pink. Extraordinary as to color and size and of most beautiful formation. This would be one of the finest dahlias if it had a better stem
PREMIER'S WINSOME — I. D. (Premier.) Soft pink with rose shadings. Good form and substance and good grower. Unusual color
REAL GLORY — F. D. (Stephenson.) Pure white. A clear glistening white of fine form and extra good substance. Good grower and free bloomer. Unsurpassed in its class. \$2.50
RITA WELLS — I. D. (Ruschmohr.) Pale rose and buff. Very large early flowering variety. Excellent growing qualities
RUBY LOXTON — I. D. (Australia.) Bright rose. Large well-colored flower. Blooms early and freely on a strong vigorous plant
SALEM SUNSHINE — I.D. (Salem.) Bright yellow. Another very large new yellow. Bush is low but stems are long and wiry and hold the magnificent bloom upright. Is not temperamental as to weather. \$2.50
SHERWOOD'S PEACH—I. D. (Ruschmohr.) Apricot buff. Very large size, beautiful color, vigorous grower New and striking \$2.00

SILVER GLAMOUR — I. D. (Golden Rule.) Rosy purple with petals suffused and edged with white. Quite similar to the original Glamour in everything but color. Spectacular. \$5.00
SOUTHERN ROSE — I. D. (Dozier.) Bright rose pink. Large and attractive both for garden or exhibition. Strong grower and good bloomer
ST. THERESA — I. C. (Holland.) Pale pink with white center. Dainty flower of true pastel coloring. Stem strong and straight. \$2.50
STEPHEN FOSTER — I. C. (Salem.) Golden buff suffused orange. Tall, strong plant producing many well-formed flowers of large size. A valuable addition to the cactus class
SUNBURST — F. D. (Smith.) Golden yellow. Giant blooms freely produced on a strong vigorous plant. A first-class new yellow
TOPFLIGHT — S. C. (Dozier.) Bright crimson. Fine large red that does not fade. Perfect formation. Long straight stem. Tall grower
TOPS — I. D. (Dozier.) Bright yellow. A true giant in the most pleasing shade of yellow. Has good depth and is well formed. Never fails to attract attention.\$2.00
TOWN TOPIC — F. D. (Hulin.) Bright purple sometimes tipped white. Full, well-built flower on a long strong stem. A nice variety
TROJAN — I. D. (Salem.) Deep red with yellow reverse. Color will vary from deep red to almost orange in flowers on the same bush. All are large and well supported by good stems
VICTRIX — I. D. (Holland.) Bluish lilac. Large flower of unusual coloring. A foreign novelty of real promise
WAKE ISLAND — S. C. (Hulin.) Deep bright red. A nice large flower of most attractive coloring. Blooms freely on a strong, shapely plant
WORLD EVENT — I. D. (Dixie.) Deep rose pink. Large flower of pleasing formation held on a good straight stem. We like this dahlia very much as it grows in our garden
YOTO — I. D. (Japan.) Amber yellow with shadings of pink. Very large flower with petals twisted and curled. Rugged grower with all good habits. Good for all purposes

CARE OF DAHLIAS

(in California)

Plant dahlia roots in May. Have the soil dug deep and well worked beforehand. Place a stake at each place, dig a hole deep enough so that the root can be covered 4 or 5 inches, and leave a wide basin 2 or 3 inches deep for watering. Lay roots flat, never on end. Plant 21/2 to 3 feet part. Water well as soon as planted and about once a week until plants are well above ground. Irrigate thoroughly about twice a week when plants are growing strong and blooming. If plants are topped when about a foot high it will cause them to branch and make a sturdier growth. Larger blooms and better stems may be had by disbudding. Leave large center bud and take off small side buds and sprouts above leaves for 2 or 3 joints. Use fertilizer sparingly. The time to fertilize is when plants are topped. Spray with a nicotine or other garden spray to prevent leaf pests the same as for other garden plants. Use ant poisons to keep ants from the patch. Dust with sulphur to control mildew. For a long season of bloom keep old flowers with foliage cut off and be sure to keep well watered at all times. Dahlias like an open, sunny situation away from the roots of trees and shrubs. Do not dig clumps until about the first of the year, leave soil on them, and store in a dry, frost-proof shed. Cut off dry stalks, stack together and cover with old bags or something of the kind. Wash and divide at planting time.